

What Issue is Driving your vote this Presidential Election?

By Rita Leone-Reyes, Executive Director

When poignantly questioned by my Senior Pastor during a television interview if I only vote on one issue; I answered without hesitation a resounding "yes". I have always voted for the candidate whose voting record and platform uphold the sanctity of life and who has a legitimate chance of winning. My personal position is that the economy, foreign relations, domestic issues, etc. will always change but God's Word will not. The Lord confirmed my belief when during my devotions I came across Psalm 106.

"Israel failed to destroy the nations in the land, as the Lord had told them to. Instead, **they mingled among the pagans and adopted their evil customs.** They worshiped their idols, and this led to their downfall. They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons. **They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters.** By sacrificing them to the idols of Canaan, they polluted the land with murder. They defiled themselves by their evil deeds, and their love of idols was adultery in the Lord's sight. That is why the Lord's anger burned against his people, and he abhorred his own special possession. He handed them over to pagan nations, and those who hated them ruled over them. **Their enemies crushed them and brought them under their cruel power. Again, and again he delivered them but they continued to rebel against him, and they were finally destroyed by their sin.**"

Psalm 106: 34-43

As Believers our first responsibility is to be obedient. Israel's initial downfall was not doing what the Lord had told them. **Disobedience led to destruction.** The same way we will stand before the Father, is the same way we enter the voting booth, ALONE; so if we are skeptical of corruption in government or being lied to by the candidates or not having better choices to vote for, none of that matters; because our duty is to vote and vote wisely. Trusting God through obedience, we should base our votes on the record of the candidates and their position on issues as they relate to a biblical perspective on life and issues relating to life.

The Bible tells us over and over that obedience is greater than sacrifice and as Christians, we have the easiest job because we know how it turns out in the end. Good will overcome evil and He will prevail but what we choose to do or not do now is what will determine the sheep from the goats at judgment. So let's not forget who we are and what our job is: to be salt and light to a dying world. Whether Republican, Democrat or Independent, we all agree **the world will** change but as Believers we know **truth will not...** "God is not mocked for whatever a man sows this he will also reap." *Galatians 6: 7*

Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants... William Penn

A good end cannot sanctify evil means nor must we ever do evil that good may come of it. William Penn